

For immediate release

September 30, 2010

Contact: Dan Williamson, Mayor's Office, 645-5300
John Ivanic, City Council, 645-6798

Mayor Coleman Accelerates New Police and Fire Classes

Mayor Michael B. Coleman announced today accelerated classes of prospective safety officers for the Columbus Divisions of Police and Fire. A police class of 50 will begin Dec. 6, scheduled to be on the streets by June of 2011. A new class of 50 firefighters will begin December 27, with expected to graduate in July.

"As we prepare the 2011 budget, our top priority is to invest in new police officers and firefighters to protect our neighborhoods," Mayor Coleman said. "This investment is possible because of the voter support we received in 2009 to maintain our city services and protect our quality of life. I am eternally grateful to our citizens for the opportunity to keep our neighborhoods safe and strong."

Today's announcement precedes the presentation of the full 2011 General Fund budget, which will be submitted to City Council Nov. 15.

"Even through the most challenging economic times, this City Council has remained committed to adequately funding our public safety forces," said City Council President Michael C. Mentel. "I am proud, with the help of Columbus residents, that we will be able to maintain this high level of service for years to come."

"The Mayor and City Council last year pledged to maintain critical city services, including Police and Fire, and these new classes are a sign of our commitment," said Councilmember Andrew J. Ginther, chair of the Finance and Economic Development and Public Safety Committees. "Police and Fire have long been our top budget priority, and we must continue to invest in our safety forces to prepare for the challenges ahead, and keep our community safe."

Dan Williamson
Communications Director
Mayor Michael B. Coleman
614-645-5300